

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 093314

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ORIGIN PM-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 INR-10 NEA-10 ACDA-19 MC-02

CIAE-00 NSAE-00 RSC-01 /077 R

DRAFTED BY PM/ MAS: DRNORLAND/ RS

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R 161825 Z MAY 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON

S E C R E T STATE 093314

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MCAP, PARM, UK

SUBJECT: BLOWPIPE MISSILE

1. STUDY IS UNDERWAY HERE ON UHAT US RESPONSE SHOULD BE TO REQUESTS FROM VARIOUS NON- NATO COUNTRIES FOR DATA ON REDEYE, THE US MAN- PORTABLE, SHORT- RANGE, SURFACE- TO- AIR MISSILE. RELEASE OF DATA MEANS US READINESS TO MAKE AVAILABLE MISSILE ITSELF.

2. STUDY IS STIMULATED BY PARTICULAR CONCERN AT POSSIBLE CONSEQUENCES IF SUCH A WEAPON FELL INTO HANDS OF TERRORISTS IN MIDDLE EAST. (FYI. USSR HAS INTRODUCED COMPARABLE WEAPON, THE SA-7 (STRELA), INTO EGYPT DURING 1970 AND INTO SYRIA IN 1972. END FYI).

3. WE UNDERSTAND COMPARABLE UK WEAPON, BLOWPIPE, IS STILL UNDER DEVELOPMENT BUT RAPIDLY BEING READIED FOR DEPLOYMENT

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PAGE 02 STATE 093314

WITH UK FORCES. WOULD APPRECIATE AVAILABLE INFORMATION ON
(A) STATUS OF BLOWPIPE, (B) PLANS FOR DEPLOYMENT, AND (C)
POSSIBLE UK PLANS FOR SALE TO OTHER COUNTRIES. RUSH

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NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** SECRET

Message Attributes

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